

**OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
 JOINT STAFF REPORT - WINTER FACT SHEET NO. 1  
 Columbia River Compact/Joint State Sport Hearing  
 December 17, 2009**

<b>Fisheries under consideration:</b>	<b>Non-Indian commercial sturgeon (winter 2010)</b> <b>Non-Indian commercial smelt</b> <b>Recreational sturgeon (January and February 2010)</b> <b>Recreational smelt</b>
---------------------------------------	--

**MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES**

***White Sturgeon - Lower Columbia River***

- A Joint State Agreement has been in effect and renewed every three years since 1997 with adjustments as necessary to protect sturgeon populations while maintaining harvest opportunity. The most recent agreement (2006-2008 Accord) was extended to include 2009 pending completion of white sturgeon management and conservation plans by ODFW and WDFW.

<b><i>Major Tenets of 2006-2009 Sturgeon Fishery Management</i></b>	
✓	Sturgeon fisheries will be managed for an average annual harvestable number of 40,000 white sturgeon unless new information warrants a change.
✓	The harvestable number is to be allocated 80% (32,000 fish) recreational and 20% (8,000 fish) commercial.
✓	Allocate 60% of the recreational harvest to the area downstream of the Wauna powerlines and 40% to the area upstream.
✓	Recreational size limit was 42-60 inches total length (2006-2008) and 38-54 inches fork length (2009) with catch limits of one fish per day and five fish per year.
✓	Commercial size limit was 48-60 inches total length (2006-2008) and 43-54 inches fork length (2009).
✓	Commercial target seasons are allowed, as necessary, to access allocation and maximize economic benefit consistent with conservation objectives for other species.
✓	Provide regulatory protection to safeguard the broodstock population.

- Both conservation plans are still in development and the revised Accord (and associated harvest guideline and fishery protocols) will not be available until February.
- New information regarding the status of the white sturgeon population in the lower Columbia River indicates a reduction of the harvest guideline is likely warranted.
- Based on this information, the Joint Staff is recommending the combined white sturgeon harvest guideline be reduced from the current guideline of 40,000 (36,800 actual harvest) beginning in 2010. Although a new guideline has not yet been developed, initial modeling indicates a substantial reduction may be needed in the near term to compensate for reduced sublegal and legal abundance.

- Given this delay, the intent is to allow recreational and commercial sturgeon fisheries in the lower Columbia to commence beginning in January 1, 2010 with further action planned for February when management policies for 2010 have been resolved. Because harvest in January-February recreational fisheries and the winter commercial fishery are relatively small, they shouldn't greatly affect future policy decisions.
- Staff met with the Columbia River Recreational Advisory Group (CRRAG) on October 13 and November 18, 2009 to review white sturgeon stock status and 2009 harvest estimates for the mainstem Columbia and lower Willamette rivers.
- Staff met with the Columbia River Commercial Advisory Group (CRCAG) on October 15 and November 19, 2009 to discuss possible season-specific allocations for 2010 commercial fisheries.
- Staff conducted public meetings on November 5 (Vancouver, WA) and November 10 (Astoria, OR) to discuss white sturgeon population trends and potential harvest reduction scenarios for 2010.

### ***White Sturgeon - Above Bonneville Dam***

- The Sturgeon Management Task Force (SMTF) consists of representatives from Oregon Washington, and the Columbia River Treaty Indian Tribes (Nez Perce, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Yakama). The SMTF annually reviews the status of the sturgeon populations in the Zone 6 area (Bonneville to McNary dams), and establishes pool-specific harvest guidelines.
- Current recreational harvest guidelines are 700 sturgeon in Bonneville Reservoir, 300 sturgeon in The Dalles Pool, and 165 sturgeon in John Day Reservoir.
- Current treaty commercial harvest guidelines are 400 sturgeon in Bonneville Reservoir (since 2004 season), 1,000 sturgeon in The Dalles Reservoir (since 2009 season), and 335 sturgeon in John Day Reservoir (since 2002 season).
- Recommendations for 2010 harvest guidelines in Bonneville Reservoir will be made at a subsequent hearing, after the SMTF reviews the 2009 Bonneville Reservoir stock assessment data.
- A public meeting was held on November 12 in Umatilla, OR to review the population status of white sturgeon in the John Day and McNary reservoirs. Staff presented options for shifting the timing of the John Day recreational sturgeon fishery based on public interest and explained modifications proposed for the McNary Reservoir recreational fishery.

### ***Green Sturgeon***

- Retention of green sturgeon in the Columbia River has been prohibited since July 7, 2006 in commercial fisheries and since January 1, 2007 in recreational fisheries following the ESA listing (threatened) of the Southern Distinct Population Segment.

### ***Smelt***

- A Washington and Oregon Eulachon Management Plan has been in effect since 2001 that provides for three levels of fishing based on:
  - 1) Parental run strength,

- 2) Juvenile production, and
- 3) Estimates of ocean productivity.

<b><i>Fishery Structure Contained in the Washington and Oregon Eulachon Management Plan</i></b>	
•	Fishery recommendations apply to the January - March timeframe, otherwise permanent regulations remain in effect.
<b><u>Level One</u></b>	
✓	Great uncertainty in run strength or indications of a poor return.
✓	Commercial fisheries are limited to one 12-24 hour fishing period per week for the Columbia and Cowlitz rivers.
✓	Tributary sport fisheries would also consist of one 12-24 hour fishing period per week in the Cowlitz River.
<b><u>Level Two</u></b>	
✓	Promising abundance in the spawning return and productivity indices that are favorable, yet it is still uncertain whether the run is moderate or strong.
✓	Commercial fisheries would consist of two or three days per week in the Columbia and Cowlitz rivers.
✓	Tributary sport fisheries could be increased to two or three days per week.
✓	Consider expansion of sport and commercial fisheries into other lower Columbia River tributaries.
<b><u>Level Three</u></b>	
✓	Very positive indicators of strong abundance and productivity.
✓	Commercial fisheries would consist of up to four days per week in the Columbia River and all lower Columbia River tributaries.
✓	Tributary sport fisheries should be opened in all tributaries for four to seven days per week.

## STOCK STATUS

### *White Sturgeon*

- Overall, the lower Columbia River white sturgeon population is considered healthy, but several recent trends provide some reasons for concern:
  - ✓ The 2008 abundance estimate of 97,000 legal-size (38"-54" fork length (FL)) white sturgeon is a 28% reduction from the 2007 estimate and follows a period of relatively stable abundance during 1998-2007,
  - ✓ Catch per angler trip of sub-legal (<42 inches) white sturgeon has decreased annually since 2004.
  - ✓ Predation by sea lions on the lower Columbia River white sturgeon population continues to increase. In March 2006 and February 2007, the states implemented hazing of sea lions in an attempt to reduce predation on adult white sturgeon below Bonneville Dam. This program was expanded to cover three months (December-February) in 2008 and subsequently reduced to two months (January-February) in 2009. Sea lion hazing operations are planned for January-February, 2010.

<b><i>Estimated Abundance of Harvestable White Sturgeon in the Lower Columbia River, 1987-2008.</i></b>			
Year	Fork Length Interval (inches)		
	38-43	43-54	38-54
1987	75,900	28,100	104,000
1988	34,400	33,700	68,100
1989	31,900	16,800	48,700

1990	25,800	12,000	37,800
1991	32,500	11,700	44,200
1992	70,400	8,700	79,100
1993	115,500	14,200	129,700
1994 <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A
1995	143,200	59,000	202,200
1996	137,100	33,500	170,600
1997	146,600	27,700	174,300
1998	116,800	23,900	140,700
1999	116,800	17,700	134,500
2000	117,300	17,400	134,700
2001	102,200	25,300	127,500
2002	87,400	34,200	121,600
2003	85,000	46,200	131,200
2004 <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A
2005	106,900	30,000	136,900
2006	88,100	35,300	123,400
2007	105,900	29,500	135,400
2008 <sup>2</sup>	65,600	31,400	97,000

1. Abundance estimates for 1994 and 2004 were not developed due to data collection and modeling concerns.

2. Preliminary data.

- In Zone 6, the most recent abundance estimates for three to six foot total length (TL) sturgeon are 42,100 in Bonneville Reservoir (2006 survey), 26,600 in John Day Reservoir (2007 survey), and 80,900 in The Dalles Reservoir (2008 survey).

### ***Smelt***

- Smelt abundance declined in 2005 and has since remained at low levels.
- Columbia River smelt were petitioned in 2007 for listing under the ESA. The NMFS found that the petitioned action was warranted and conducted a status review. On March 13, 2008, NMFS proposed to list eulachon smelt south of the Nass River, B.C., as threatened. A final decision by NMFS is due sometime in 2010.
- Positive abundance indicators for 2009 include:
  - ✓ A modest improvement in adult eulachon returns (landings and CPUE) during 2006.
  - ✓ A moderate increase in Age 2 and total smelt biomass tonnage in the Canadian ocean shrimp fisheries in 2009.
  - ✓ Favorable ocean conditions starting in 2007 and continuing through 2009.
- Negative abundance indices for 2009 include:
  - ✓ Low mainstem Columbia River larval densities during the winters of 2004 through 2007.
  - ✓ Decreasing adult smelt biomass estimates from the Fraser River.
  - ✓ Weak adult landings in brood years 2005 and 2007.
- A weighted average of the positive and negative indicators for each age component of the run suggests a slight improvement for 2010 compared to 2009. The main component of the 2010 run (age 3 and 4), should strengthen; however, the age 5 component will likely remain weak.

## FISHERIES REVIEW

### *2009 Winter Commercial Sturgeon Fishery*

- The 2009 winter sturgeon gillnet fishery consisted of eight fishing periods (18-24 hours) from January 6 through February 13. A total of 1,697 white sturgeon were landed from the 1,700 fish allocation.
- A total of 18 adipose fin-clipped spring Chinook were also landed.

### *2009 Recreational Sturgeon Fishery*

#### Above Wauna:

- The projected 2009 harvest for the above Wauna area is 5,020 fish, with an additional 4,215 harvest (above baseline) estimated for the Willamette River. The combined harvest of 9,235 fish, is 2,195 fish below the adjusted 2009 guideline of 11,430 (12,800 guideline reduced by 1,370 fish to account for harvest in excess of the 2008 guideline).

#### Below Wauna:

- Beginning in 2004, the annual harvest guideline for the area below Wauna was reduced from 19,200 to 16,000 white sturgeon to account for the change to a 45-inch minimum TL size limit (now 41-inch FL) during the spring/summer timeframe.
- The 2009 recreational fishery below Wauna was managed for a total harvest of 15,529 white sturgeon, which was adjusted to account for a catch of 471 fish over the 2008 guideline.
- The final estimated catch of 13,109 for 2009 in the below Wauna area was 2,420 fish under the adjusted 2009 guideline.

<b>2009 Lower Columbia River Sturgeon Recreational Fishing Seasons</b>		
Area	Planned Season Structure	Final Season Structure
<b><u>Above Wauna</u></b>		
➤ Sturgeon retention allowed Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays only.	January 1-July 31	As proposed
➤ Sturgeon retention not allowed.	August 1-September 30	As proposed
➤ Sturgeon retention allowed Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays only.	October 1-December 31	As proposed
<b><u>Below Wauna</u></b>		
➤ Sturgeon retention allowed seven days per week, 42-inch minimum total length size limit.	January 1-April 30	As proposed
➤ Sturgeon retention not allowed.	May 1- May 8 and June 29-July 1	As proposed
➤ Sturgeon retention allowed seven days per week, 45-inch minimum total length size limit.	May 9-June 28 and July 2-5	As proposed
➤ Sturgeon retention allowed July 10-12, 17-19, and 24-26		In-season extension

<i>2006-2009 Lower Columbia River White Sturgeon Recreational Harvest</i>				
<b>Area</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
<u>Above Wauna</u>				
Management target	12,000	12,000	12,800	12,800
Management buffer	+ 800	+ 800		
No. remaining from guideline	<u>0</u>	<u>+ 1,052</u>	<u>-413<sup>a</sup></u>	<u>-1,370</u>
Guideline	12,800	13,852	12,387	11,430
Willamette adjustment	- 2,152	- 4,641	-5,798	-4,215
Harvest (projected for 2008)	<u>-8,545</u>	<u>-10,675</u>	<u>-7,959</u>	<u>-5,020</u>
No. remaining from guideline	+ 2,103	- 1,464	-1,370	<b>2,195</b>
<u>Below Wauna</u>				
Management target	15,000	15,000	16,000	16,000
Management buffer	+1,000	+1,000		
No. remaining from guideline	<u>0</u>	<u>+ 274</u>	<u>- 2,857</u>	<u>-471</u>
Guideline	16,000	16,274	13,143	15,529
Harvest	<u>-15,726</u>	<u>-19,131</u>	<u>-13,614</u>	<u>-13,109</u>
No. remaining from guideline	+ 274	- 2,857	-471	<b>2,420</b>

<sup>a</sup> See Table 3 of the "2010 Joint Staff Report Concerning Stock Status and Fisheries for Sturgeon and Smelt" for details on year-to year roll-over

### **2009 Zone 6 Recreational Fisheries**

- Recreational retention seasons in each of the Zone 6 reservoirs began January 1 and remained open through June 5 in Bonneville Pool, through April 18 in The Dalles Pool, and through April 12 in the John Day Pool.
- The recreational harvest above Bonneville was 1,077, or 92% of the combined guideline of 1,165 sturgeon. The estimated sturgeon harvest for Bonneville Pool was 697 (99.6% of guideline). The estimated Dalles Pool sturgeon harvest was 232 (77% of guideline). The estimated John Day Pool harvest was 148 sturgeon (90% of guideline).

### **2009 Zone 6 Treaty Commercial Fisheries**

- In 2009, the size limits for all Treaty Indian fisheries changed from TL to equivalent FL. The current size limits for sturgeon caught for tribal subsistence and commercial purposes are 43-54 inches FL in The Dalles and John Day pools and 38-54 inches FL in Bonneville Pool.
- Treaty Indian subsistence sturgeon fishing is open year-round, with sanctuary closures around dams and tributaries. The subsistence fishery catch in 2009 is estimated to be 216 fish, or 74% of the 2000-2009 average of 290 white sturgeon.
- Per permanent regulations, treaty Indian commercial setline fisheries occurred in all pools during January, but no sturgeon were caught. A setline fishery occurred in the John Day Pool in August with landings of 31 sturgeon.
- Treaty Indian commercial gillnet fisheries occurred: February 2-13 (Monday through Friday) in the Bonneville Pool; and February 2-March 6 (seven days a week) in The Dalles and John Day pools. A total of 1,602 sturgeon were caught in gillnet fisheries.

- The combined tribal commercial harvest of white sturgeon was 1,633 (94% of the combined guidelines). The Bonneville harvest was 409 (102% of pool guideline). The Dalles harvest was 899 (90% of pool guideline). The John Day Pool harvest was 325 (97% of guideline).

### ***2009 Columbia River Commercial Smelt Fishery***

- Smelt fisheries during January-March 2009 were managed at a conservative Level One in accordance with the Washington and Oregon Eulachon Management Plan. The fishery consisted of two 7-hour weekly fishing periods (7 AM to 2 PM) every Monday and Thursday from January 1 through March 31. The fishery was conducted without the need for in-season management.
- Landings totaled 5,600 pounds which was 50% of the 11,400 pounds landed in 2008 but fishing time was also reduced.

### ***December 2009 Columbia River Commercial Smelt Fishery***

- As per permanent regulations, the commercial fishery in the mainstem Columbia River is open seven days per week during December.
- To date, there are no reports of smelt being landed.
- During the first 15 days in December water temperature in the upper Columbia River estuary has dropped from 48°F to 41°F and average daily flow at Bonneville Dam has ranged between 119-149 kcfs.
- Water temperatures to date are slightly below normal for December but are still favorable for smelt migration.

### ***2009 Commercial Tributary Smelt Fisheries***

- Consistent with Level One fisheries, the Cowlitz River was open to commercial fishing 6 PM to midnight on Sundays and Wednesdays from January 1 - March 31, 2009. All other Washington tributaries were closed to commercial fishing during 2009.
- The Sandy River (OR) was open year-round, 7 d/week, 24 h/day, per permanent regulations.
- Commercial landings totaled 12,093 pounds in the Cowlitz River during late February and early March. No smelt were reported landed in the Sandy River.

### ***2009 Recreational Smelt Fisheries***

- Consistent with Level One fisheries, the Cowlitz River was open to sport dipping 6 AM to 10 PM Saturdays from January 1-March 31, 2009. The daily limit was 10 pounds per person.
- Oregon allows recreational fisheries in the mainstem Columbia River and Oregon tributaries seven days per week the entire year under permanent rules.
- Recreational harvest consisted of small numbers of smelt dipped from the Cowlitz River in late January followed by improved success in late February.

## FISHERY PROPOSALS

### *2010 Winter Commercial White Sturgeon*

<i>Joint Staff Recommendation – 2010 winter commercial white sturgeon fishery</i>		
<b>Seasons:</b>		
<b>Option 1</b>	6 PM Tuesday February 2 – 6 PM Wednesday February 3, 2010	(24 hours)
	6 PM Tuesday February 9 – 6 PM Wednesday February 10, 2010	(24 hours)
	6 PM Tuesday February 16 – 6 PM Wednesday February 17, 2010	(24 hours)
<b>Option 2</b>	6 PM Tuesday January 19 – 6 PM Wednesday January 20, 2010	(24 hours)
	6 PM Tuesday January 26 – 6 PM Wednesday January 27, 2010	(24 hours)
	6 PM Tuesday February 2 – 6 PM Wednesday February 3, 2010	(24 hours)
	6 PM Tuesday February 9 – 6 PM Wednesday February 10, 2010	(24 hours)
	6 PM Tuesday February 16 – 6 PM Wednesday February 17, 2010	(24 hours)
<b>Area:</b>	Zones 1 - 5.	
<b>Gear:</b>	9" minimum and 9 ¾" maximum mesh size restrictions.	
<b>Allowable Sales:</b>	White sturgeon (43-54 inch fork length) and adipose fin-clipped salmon. As applicable, a maximum of <b>25</b> white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open during <b>January</b> and/or a maximum of <b>15</b> white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) that the fishery is open during <b>February</b> .	
<b>Sanctuaries:</b>	Sandy River sanctuary.	
<b>Miscellaneous:</b>	24-hour Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington buyers.	

- Option 1 was developed at the CRCAG meeting on November 19, 2009 when about half of the CRCAG members were present. This option assumes the winter season would start in February with one fishing period each week, a 500 fish guideline, and weekly landing limits to extend the fishery through as much as of February as possible. Staff estimates this would result in a 3-week fishery, assuming Chinook catch would begin to increase in late February. The CRRAG members expressed a desire to delay the start of the fishery until February when sturgeon are distributed over a wider geographic area.
- Based on feedback from other commercial fisherman following the CRCAG meeting, staff developed Option 2 as a compromise to eliminating the January portion of the winter fishery. This option assumes separate guidelines of 500 fish each for January and February with weekly landing limits in place. Fish not harvested in January could be rolled-over to February and any unused fish from January-February could be reserved for possibly May fisheries, if needed.
- For either option, fishing could possibly continue in Zones 4-5 if Chinook landings increase and prohibit additional fishing time in the lower Zones.
- Staff forwarded both options to the CRCAG members for further input. Although limited, most feedback from CRCAG members supported Option 1 or some version of it. Feedback from other fishers (non-CRCAG) supported Option 2, especially if landing limits were not in effect until the second week.

- Although the 2010 Accord (and associated management protocols) will not be available until February, the winter season options presented allocate a relatively small portion of the commercial share even assuming a significant harvest reduction.
- Staff will monitor weekly landings and consider in-season adjustments as needed to remain within season-specific guidelines.

***2010 Lower Columbia River Recreational Sturgeon Fisheries***

- Because a new Accord will not be in place until February 2010, recreational white sturgeon seasons for the full year on the lower Columbia River cannot be set at this time.
- Under current permanent rules (as adopted in 2009), the mainstem recreational fishery will open effective January 1, 2010 under the same regulations that were in place during January 2009 as shown below:

<b><i>2009 Regulations for the Above Wauna Recreational Sturgeon Fishery</i></b>	
<b>Area:</b>	Mainstem Columbia River from the Wauna powerlines upstream to Bonneville Dam, all adjacent Washington tributaries, and the lower Willamette River upstream to Willamette Falls, including Multnomah Channel.
<b>Retention Seasons:</b>	January 1 – July 31 and October 1 – December 31 Retention allowed Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays only
<b>Other Restrictions:</b>	Retention of green sturgeon prohibited as per permanent regulations 38-inch minimum fork length and 54-inch maximum fork length

<b><i>2009 Regulations for the Estuary (below Wauna) Recreational Sturgeon Fishery</i></b>	
<b>Area:</b>	Mainstem Columbia River from the Wauna powerlines downstream to the mouth at Buoy 10, including Youngs Bay, and all adjacent Washington tributaries.
<b>Retention Seasons:</b>	January 1-April 30, May 9-June 28; and July 2-5
<b>Other restrictions:</b>	38-inch minimum fork length during January 1 through April 30 41-inch minimum fork length during May 9 through remainder of season 54-inch maximum fork length in effect throughout season Retention of green sturgeon prohibited as per permanent regulations.

<b><i>Joint Staff Recommendation - Recreational Sturgeon Fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam</i></b>	
No action at this time. Effective January 1, 2010, allow recreational sturgeon fisheries in the lower Columbia River downstream of Bonneville Dam for January and February, 2010 to resume under current regulations.	

- Taking no action at this time will allow recreational sturgeon fisheries to resume for the early portion of 2010 under 2009 regulations. Further season modifications will be taken in February following policy guidance from the Commissions and adoption of a new Accord for 2010.

- The estimated catch during January-February for recreational fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam under the proposed option is 100 fish or less for the mainstem Columbia River and approximately 1,300 fish in the Willamette River.

***Zone 6 Recreational Sturgeon Fisheries***

- Given the recent early closures in the John Day Reservoir recreational fishery, there has been interest expressed by some anglers in an alternative season structure that would provide for retention angling opportunity later in the calendar year.
- Input during and after the November 12 meeting in Umatilla was mixed regarding whether a change in season structure was needed for the John Day recreational sturgeon fishery.
- The current harvest guideline of 165 fish for John Day Reservoir limits flexibility in designing alternative seasons; however, following the next stock assessment in John Day Reservoir (2010), the SMTF will meet to consider modifications to the John Day harvest guidelines.
- Once this information is available, staff could reconsider season alternatives for the John Day recreational sturgeon fishery.

<b><i>Joint Staff Recommendation – Zone 6 Recreational Sturgeon Fisheries</i></b>	
No action at this time. Effective January 1, 2010, allow recreational sturgeon fisheries in the Bonneville, The Dalles, and John Day reservoirs to resume under current regulations.	

***2010 Treaty Indian Sturgeon Fisheries***

- Under permanent rules, a treaty Indian commercial setline season occurs annually from noon January 1 to noon January 31.
- Per permanent regulations, a treaty Indian commercial gillnet fishery occurs annually from noon February 1 through 6 PM March 21.
- The SMTF will meet on January 19 to review stock status and develop harvest guideline recommendations for 2010 Zone 6 sturgeon fisheries.

***2010 Mainstem Columbia River Commercial Smelt Fisheries***

<b><i>Commercial Mainstem Smelt Fishery Recommendation</i></b>	
<b>Season:</b>	Close ongoing 7-day per week fishery effective January 1, 2010 and adopt a Level One fishery consisting of 7-hour weekly fishing periods on Mondays and Thursdays from January 1, 2010 through March 31, 2010. Open hours are 7 AM to 2 PM.
<b>Area:</b>	Zones 1-5.
<b>Gear:</b>	Gill net, dip nets, or trawls as per permanent regulations.
<b>Miscellaneous:</b>	24-hour Quick Reporting Rule in effect for Washington buyers.

- The proposed season is consistent with a Level One fishery as described in the Joint State Eulachon Management Plan.

- The recommendation will continue to provide a minimal test fishery while maintaining a historic index of run strength.
- Anticipated low participation, in combination with the proposed fishery structure, should moderate harvest and allow staff to track harvest and make any in-season modifications if necessary.
- A fishery checkpoint will occur in mid-February to review smelt run status and consider any necessary modifications to the proposed season.

***2010 Oregon Mainstem Columbia River and Tributary Smelt Fisheries***

- The Oregon portion of the Columbia River and Oregon tributaries are open seven days per week the entire year (25-lbs. daily limit) for recreational fishing.

***2010 Washington Mainstem Columbia River and Tributary Smelt Fisheries***

- WDFW will announce plans for Washington recreational and commercial tributary fisheries.

**FUTURE MEETINGS**

- A Compact/Joint State Hearing is tentatively scheduled for February 18, to consider the following issues and fisheries:
  - ✓ March-December 2010 mainstem Columbia recreational sturgeon fisheries.
  - ✓ 2010 non-Indian commercial white sturgeon fisheries protocol.
  - ✓ 2010 recreational spring salmon seasons.
  - ✓ 2010 Select Area winter-summer commercial fisheries.
  - ✓ 2010 non-Indian commercial winter/spring commercial salmon fishing plan.